

E1 cont wherein said amino acid sequence consists of at least seven contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

41. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 40, which consists of amino acid sequence (a).

E2 42. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 40, which consists of amino acid sequence (b).

43. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 40, which consists of amino acid sequence (c).

47. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 42, wherein said amino acid sequence consists of amino acid residues +1 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2.

48. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 43, wherein said amino acid sequence consists of amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acid residues +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) amino acid residues +23 to +225 of SEQ ID NO:2; and

(c) amino acid residues +226 to +260 of SEQ ID NO:2.

E3 49. (Once Amended) An isolated polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acid residues +22 to +29 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) amino acid residues +48 to +56 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(c) amino acid residues +62 to +73 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(d) amino acid residues +78 to +85 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(e) amino acid residues +88 to +95 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(f) amino acid residues +99 to +105 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(g) amino acid residues +118 to +126 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(h) amino acid residues +139 to +146 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(i) amino acid residues +151 to +169 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(j) amino acid residues +188 to +206 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(k) amino acid residues +208 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;

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cont
- (l) amino acid residues +264 to +271 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (m) amino acid residues +286 to +293 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (n) amino acid residues +300 to +313 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (o) amino acid residues +317 to +342 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (p) amino acid residues +347 to +353 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - (q) amino acid residues +363 to +369 of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein the polypeptide consisting of said amino acid sequence is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

50. (Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide consisting of at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

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51. (Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide consisting of at least 30 contiguous amino acid residues encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

52. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50, consisting of at least 50 contiguous amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO:2.

53. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51, consisting of at least 50 amino acid residues encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641.

54. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 wherein said polypeptide inhibits the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells.

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55. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 wherein said polypeptide transduces immune cell proliferation.

56. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 50 wherein said polypeptide transduces hematopoietic cell proliferation.

59. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 wherein said polypeptide inhibits the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells.

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E6 60. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 wherein said polypeptide transduces immune cell proliferation.

61. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51 wherein said polypeptide transduces hematopoietic cell proliferation.

64. (Once Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- E7
- (a) amino acids +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) amino acids +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (c) amino acids +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - (d) amino acids +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein the isolated polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence transduces immune cell proliferation.

~~76. (Once Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a first amino acid sequence 90% or more identical to a second amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:~~

(a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

E8 (b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

(c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

wherein the polypeptide comprising said first amino acid sequence transduces immune cell proliferation.

E9 89. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 88 which transduces the proliferation and/or differentiation of immune cells.

E¹⁰ 95. (Once Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 94 which transduces the differentiation and/or proliferation of immune cells.

100. (Once Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence, wherein, except for one to 30 amino acid substitutions, said amino acid sequence is identical to contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) amino acids residues +2 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (c) amino acids residues +23 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (d) amino acids residues +23 to +231 of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein said isolated polypeptide transduces immune cell proliferation.

101. (Once Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence, wherein, except for one to 30 amino acid substitutions, said amino acid sequence is identical to contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

~~(b) an amino acid sequence of the full length polypeptide, excluding the N-terminal methionine residue, encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;~~

E¹¹ (c) an amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

(d) an amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641; and

(e) an amino acid sequence of the soluble extracellular domain of the polypeptide encoded by the cDNA in ATCC Deposit No. 209691 or 209641;

wherein said isolated polypeptide transduces immune cell proliferation.

102. (Once Amended) An isolated protein comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide consisting of amino acid residues +1 to +371 of SEQ ID NO:2, in which 1 or more amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added, in any combination and wherein said polypeptide transduces immune cell proliferation;

(b) a polypeptide consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 which fragment transduces immune cell proliferation; and

(c) a polypeptide consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2 which fragment inhibits immune cell proliferation.
